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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. NAKAGAWA et al.

Serial No. 09/862,700

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: May 22, 2001

Examiner: B. Gordon

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SAMPLING

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the priority
document submitted with the amendment filed on November 7,
2003 be officially considered of record. Attached is a conformation of the stamped receipt for your records.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner officially acknowledge the priority document.

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APR 0 5 2004
TC 1700

Respectfully submitted,

Gene W. Stockman

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Attorney for Applicants

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Date: February 10, 2004



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NOV 0 7 2003

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Papers Filed Herewith:

Transmittal letter;

Amendment;

Petition and Fee for 1-month Extension of Time;

Certified Priority Document

(2000-358471 filed 11/24/00); and

A Credit Card Payment form in the amount of \$110.00 in payment of 1-month Extension of Time

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed, as identified in connection with the above-identified patent application.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

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